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#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Scott Christensen

FROM:

Jeff Dierenfeld

DATE:

July 25, 1995

RE:

**Bowl Breast Dip Test** 

Over the past several weeks, we have been testing many different methods of smoking our bowl breasts to reduce the cycle time of the second cook and in the process, improve the yield. We have just finished the final test which consisted of a 90 second bath in a 100% solution of mesquite smoke, and a dry 180 deg cook for 50 min. We tested a four rack batch. The color is very good, and the yields are greatly improved. We only need sales to approve the opposite effect that the netting leaves when it has been dipped (I am looking for alternativ nettings). I will also contact Red Arrow to see if we can tone down the smoke flavor, which may be a bit too strong at this point.

Please review the information below for details:

METHOD
ΓΝ

VIELD YIELD STRIP WT 7,899.00 YIELD

2nd COOK 7,713.00 97.65% STRIP WT. 7,899.00 2nd COOK 7,091.72 89.78%

DIFFERENCE===> 7.87%

If we apply this 7.87% towards the estimated 14,000,000 lbs projected for 1996, we gain an additional 1,101,800 lbs in finished goods tonnage.

c Dave Gruis

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U-7948



## UNITHERM FOOD SYSTEMS

1106 WEST HARTFORD PONCA CITY, OK 74601

> Telephone (405) 762-0197 Fax (406) 782-0199

22 September 1995

Lee Kramer
Bryan Foods
PO Box 1177
100 Churchill Road
West Point
Memphis City
MS 39773
USA

Dear Mr. Kramer.

Re: Continuous RF Cooking of Emulsified Ham

With regard to your recent conversation with Mr. David Howard of Unitherm Food Systems, Oklahoma, please consider the following description and quotation of the inline Radio Frequency (RF) heating of emulsified ham.

#### 1. Introduction

In its simplest form Radio Frequency (RF) heating is achieved by placing the dielectric material to be heated (food) between two parallel plates resonating at a frequency of 13.56 MHz. In theory, the dielectric field strength between the two plates is constant resulting in a uniform temperature rise of the product. The rate of heating and the efficiency of the process is dependent upon the dielectric properties of the food being lieated. In the case of emulsified meats this is an averaged value of the individual dielectric properties of the separate ingredients.

Past experience in RF cooking of food with a high salt content such as ham have been unsuccessful when a parallel plate electrode arrangement has been utilised. This is due to the salts dissolving within the residual meat juices to form an electrically conductive solution. Once this arises, a conductive path between the metallic electrodes is developed leading to arcing, food discolouration and damage to the processing equipment. It is due to this reason that microwave heating is usually preferred to RF for dielectric cooking of high salt content foods. However, with an understanding of the dielectric properties of the food and a knowledge of RF equipment design it is possible to successfully heat high salt content based products such as emulsified ham.

Continual RF Cooking of Emulsified Ham

Several companies world-wide have tried to continually cook food as it is pumped through a polymeric pipe positioned between two RF plates. In theory the technique is simple, however, virtually all have failed to reach the market due to scorching and non-uniformity of heating. This is caused by a lack of understanding of the dielectric properties of the food and how to engineer the equipment to compensate. The

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problem is caused by the large step change in the dielectric constant between the meat and surrounding air gap. This results in focusing of the electric field intensity towards the edges of the meat resulting in scorching. This can be compensated for by "Electric Field Profiling" by surrounding the product tube with a dielectric material other than air. De-ionised water is an ideal fluid due to its very low loss factor at 13.56 MHz hence no RF power is wasted in heating the water, but it has a similar dielectric constant to the emulsified meat hence focusing of the electric field is avoided resulting in an almost uniform temperature distribution throughout the product.

The use of recirculating temperature controlled de-ionised water as the field profiling dielectric also facilitates improved control of the meat skin temperature within the pipe. This is advantageous as a cooler skin temperature improves flow and subsequent handling/ slicing.

The simplest profile to cook using this technique is circular, however through the use of additional strips of dielectric material placed around the periphery of the polymeric channel, it is in theory possible to process almost any profile. A rectangular section would, without additional electric field profiling result in over cooking of the corners due to focusing.

#### 3. Delivery System

FR. .

The method of product delivery to the RF unit is of paramount importance as it is essential that voids within the meat emulsion are avoided. Their presence again results in field profiling around this localised air gap resulting in scorching. It is for this reason why a vertical or inclined pipe is chosen over a horizontal one, thus preventing the fluid from running freely as it is heated and its viscosity changes prior to coagulation.

#### 4. Cooling & Slicing

Using conventional contacting mechanical slicers it is difficult to process hot meat prior to chilling and packaging. An alternative method is to utilise a non-contacting cutting technique such as water jetting, although past experience has demonstrated that waste levels are increased caused by the finite kerf width. This is compounded by the problem of cleaning the collected effluent prior to discharge. For this reason Unitherm recommend the use of a rapid brine chiller and automated equilibration buffer where the processed logs can be stored prior to slicing at any desired temperature.

#### 5. Facts & Figures for the RF in-line cooker

Max. cooking rate ~0.5° C/s
Target through-put 2000 kg/hr
RF power requirement 164 kW

RF capacity 180 kW (3 generators)

Product cross section 6" x 4" (152mm x 100mm)

Working tube length 20 (≈6m)

Machine footprint (approx.) 26' (8m) long x 8' (2.5m) wide

### 6. Quotati n for Complete System

The following is a quotation for a complete line based around a RF continuous cooker producing a nominal output of 2000kg/hr. This price includes feed hopper, pump, RF cooker and brine chiller.

Hem
Hopper
Pump
RF cooker
Bagging unit
Guillotine and clip unit
Brine chiller

\$1.8M

Cost

Delivery Lead Time:

26 weeks

Payment Terms:

UNITHERO LA

30% Downpayment with confirmed order

20% On the 14th week

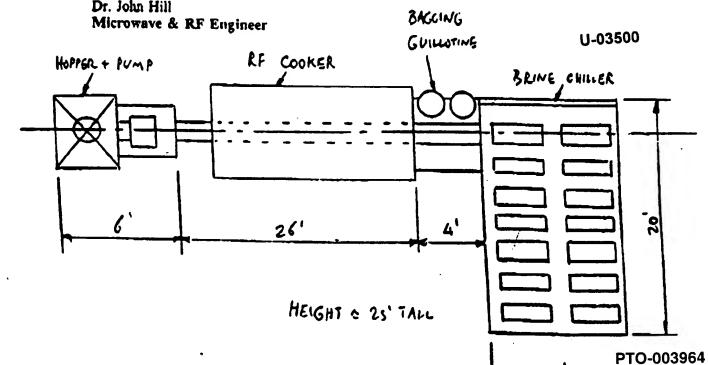
40% On shipping

10% Payable in 30 days after installation

I trust that this information meets with your expectations and I look forward to being of assistance in the future.

Yours sincerely, for UNITHERM FOOD SYSTEMS

Dr. John Hill



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UNITE AM FOOD SYSTEMS INCORPORATED 1108 - /\_JT HARTFORD PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA 74601 TELEPHONE: 405-762-0197 X: 405-762-0199





October 16, 1995

Prem Singh Armour Swift Eckrich 2001 Butterfield Road Downers Grove, IL 60515

We are shipping the Rapid Flow on Friday, the 20th of October. It will be delivered to you on Monday, the 23rd. Two of Unitherm's engineers will be on site to help install the oven. The arrangement we discussed for the trial was that Armour Swift Eckrich would pay for the transport and commissioning engineers. I would appreciate your assistance in making sure we have a purchase order to invoice this against.

The specific criteria for the trial was:

- Liquid smoke application for turkey breasts.
   Dwell time 7.5 minutes at 3300 C.
   Internal temperature will rise by 10 C.
   1% Shrinkage.
- Browning turkey breasts with skin on.
   Dwell time 15 minutes at 3300 C.
   shrinkage.
   (No glaze.)
- Glazing both hams and turkeys.
   Dwell time 3 minutes at 3300 C.
- 4) Cooking of full turkeys i.e. nominal 12-14 lbs. Cook time 1 hour 50 minutes at 2500 C.
- 5) Any other products you with to try. Philly cheese steak beef.
  Sausage links.
  Patties, etc.

U-03520

Jim Gaydusek and I will help you understand the oven and offer guidance for various products.

### Site Requirements:

Electric 232 KW

Steam 50 kg/hr @ 6-8 bar Exhaust 1800 cfm/Fan Foot print 2-zone Rapid Flow

Regards,

**David Howard** 

President

151DH

## N-03252

